

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A heat-activatable adhesive comprising

- (i) from about 30 to about 70 wt.% of one or more elastomers,
- (ii) from about 20 to about 60 wt.% of one or more novolac phenolic resins,

and

(iii) ~~an effective amount of~~ one or more crosslinking agents, in amount of less than about 0.25 wt.%, capable of effecting crosslinking of the one or more novolac phenolic resins,

wherein the ratio of the mass of the one or more novolac phenolic resins over the mass of the one or more elastomers is at least about 0.65,

wherein the heat-activatable adhesive has upon curing a glass transition temperature of less than about 60°C, and

wherein the one or more elastomers are selected from natural rubbers, butyl rubber, ~~nitrile rubbers~~, nitrile butadiene rubber, synthetic polyisoprene, ethylene-propylene rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene monomer rubber (EPDM), polybutadiene, polyisobutylene, poly(alpha-olefin), styrene-butadiene random copolymer, fluoroelastomers, silicone elastomers, and combinations thereof.

15. (previously presented) The adhesive according to claim 14 wherein the ratio of the mass of the one or more novolac phenolic resins to the mass of the one or more elastomers is between 0.65 and 1.0.

16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The adhesive according to claim 4 wherein the elastomers comprise ~~one or more poly(butadiene-co-acrylonitrile) copolymers~~ nitrile butadiene rubber.

18. (previously presented) The adhesive according to claim 14 wherein the novolac phenolic resins have a free phenol content of less than 1 wt.% with respect to the mass of the novolac resin.

19. (previously presented) The adhesive according to claim 14 wherein the crosslinking agent comprises hexamethylenetetramine.

20. (previously presented) The adhesive according to claim 14 comprising one or more vulcanisation agents capable of crosslinking the one or more elastomers, provided in an amount of less than about 0.25 wt.%.

21. (previously presented) The adhesive according to claim 14 having a crosslinking agent capable of effecting a crosslinking reaction between the one or more elastomers and the one or more novolac phenolic resins, the crosslinking agent(s) provided in an amount of less than about 0.25 wt.%.

22. (previously presented) The adhesive according to claim 14 comprising one or more non-curable thermoplastic resins provided in an amount of less than 20 wt.%.

23. (previously presented) The adhesive according to claim 14 comprising electrically conductive particles.

24. (previously presented) A film comprising the heat-activatable adhesive of claim 14, said film having a thickness of about 30 to about 200 μm .

25. (previously presented) An assembly comprising a bond comprising the heat-activatable adhesive according to claim 14, wherein said bond is capable of being functionally maintained for at least about 200 Flexural Cycles.

26. (previously presented) The assembly of claim 25 further comprising an electronic element.